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By: **Delegates Cadden, Hubers, James, V. Jones, Kopp, Leopold, Pitkin,  
Rosso, Stocksdale, and Turner**

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Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 19, 2001

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Education - Creation of a Task Force to Study Adult Education Services in**  
3                                   **Maryland**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Adult Education Services in  
5 Maryland to ensure effective workers, family members, and citizens; and  
6 generally relating to the establishment of a Task Force to Study Adult Education  
7 Services in Maryland.

8       WHEREAS, Adult education includes instruction in basic skills, English as a  
9 second language, General Equivalent Degree (GED), and family literacy for adults  
10 without a high school diploma; and

11       WHEREAS, There are approximately 770,000 adults currently residing in  
12 Maryland who are without a high school diploma or its equivalent; and

13       WHEREAS, Only approximately 37,000 of these adults are being served by  
14 presently existing adult education services; and

15       WHEREAS, There is a documented need in Maryland for a better educated  
16 workforce, and the General Assembly believes that improved adult education would  
17 help address that need; now, therefore,

18       SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
19 MARYLAND, That:

20       (a)       There shall be a Task Force to Study Adult Education Services in  
21 Maryland.

1 (b) The Task Force shall be composed of:

2 (1) One member of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board,  
3 appointed by the Governor;

4 (2) One representative of the Department of Business and Economic  
5 Development, appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Business and  
6 Economic Development;

7 (3) One representative of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and  
8 Regulation, appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and  
9 Regulation;

10 (4) One representative of the Department of Human Resources,  
11 appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources;

12 (5) Two local literacy works team administrators, appointed by the State  
13 Superintendent of Schools;

14 (6) One representative of family literacy programs, appointed by the  
15 State Superintendent of Schools;

16 (7) At least two county superintendents active in adult education,  
17 appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools;

18 (8) One representative of the State Advisory Committee for Adult  
19 Education, appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools;

20 (9) One representative from a State community college, appointed by the  
21 Secretary of the Maryland Higher Education Commission;

22 (10) One representative of a Local Workforce Investment Board,  
23 appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation;

24 (11) One representative of the State Department of Education, appointed  
25 by the State Superintendent of Schools;

26 (12) One representative of an organization or program serving  
27 immigrants or new Americans, appointed by the Governor;

28 (13) At least one representative from a private sector association  
29 concerned with issues of adult education for adults without a high school degree or its  
30 equivalent;

31 (14) One student enrolled in adult education, appointed by the State  
32 Superintendent of Schools;

33 (15) One private sector employer, appointed by the Governor;

34 (16) One labor union representative, appointed by the Governor;

1 (17) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
2 the House; and

3 (18) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
4 of the Senate.

5 (c) The Governor shall designate a chairperson of the Task Force.

6 (d) Staff for the Task Force shall be provided by the State Department of  
7 Education.

8 (e) The Task Force shall study adult education issues, including:

9 (1) The statewide need for adult education services, including  
10 instruction for adults in basic skills, English for Speakers of Other Languages, and  
11 family literacy and preparation for the GED test and the adult external high school  
12 program;

13 (2) The impact of adult education on workforce economic development;

14 (3) The existing levels of service for adults without a high school diploma  
15 or its equivalent, on a county-by-county basis (including Baltimore City);

16 (4) The existing levels of adult education services for adults who are  
17 incarcerated or on probation;

18 ~~(4)~~ (5) The current funding process and level of funding for existing  
19 programs in each county and Baltimore City; and

20 ~~(5)~~ (6) A comparison between Maryland and other states in the region  
21 regarding levels of need, service provided, and funding.

22 (f) The Task Force shall submit a report summarizing its findings and  
23 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before November  
24 1, 2001.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 July 1, 2001.